

**TOWN OF LA POINTE
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
2013 BUDGET WORKSHOP
Wednesday, October 24, 2012
At 5:00 PM At Town Hall**

Present: Jim Patterson, Greg Nelson, Ham Ross

Absent: Nick Nelson, Larry Whalen

Staff Present: Pete Clark, Michael Dalzell, Keith Sowl

Public Present: Dave Thomas

I. Call to Order at 5:05 PM

II. Budget Workshops with each of the following departments:

A. Roads presented by Keith Sowl, Town Foreman: Sowl states that he seeks no pay raises this year. Ham Ross asked about the water damage at the ~~airport~~ **Winter Terminal/Transportation Building**; Sowl explained the insurance procedure and the cost of the repair. Discussion next turned to the new roofs that will be required at various Town buildings. The cost of the materials for the last roofing job may be charged to the supplier; however, if it was a bid job, the Town may not have receipts to show the supplier. Ross states that he would like to replace the roofs with steel roofs. Pete Clark to look into this. Greg Nelson points out that such an expense will need to be budgeted. Greg Nelson asked about the Old Fort Rd. project; Sowl replies that he is not sure about even doing it, but he will apply for a water quality certificate because one would be needed for the project. Sowl left the decision on going forward with the project to the Town Board to decide.

Greg Nelson asked if the Board hadn't talked about doing the Griggs Approach project "on our own." He asked if it's in the highway expenditures for 2012? Discussion followed regarding the various funding sources and how much remains: \$133,000 planned for the project minus \$6800 spent to date equals \$126,200 remaining.

Sowl reports that the Roads budget is down 10%; however, some of that has been diverted to Parks. [Three Parks Assistants budgeted for 2013] Sowl also stated that he has received \$10,000 from the Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve for the purpose of fighting buckthorne, and that the County may add some to that. [an invasive] Sowl states that the Town is going to need a lot of help fighting invasives. Regarding Rice St., Sowl states that he feels the Town should open the stretch between Big Bay Rd. & Voyageur Lane. Discussion followed regarding a land swap with Evan Erickson for the purpose of creating this stretch of road.

Regarding the Industrial Zone, Sowl states that he has budgeted \$12450 for a survey to complete this area.

B. Parks & Recreation presented by Town Foreman, Keith Sowl: Sowl reports that having no electrical sites at Big Bay Town Park continues to be a problem: people want them. He adds his unhappiness with Hercules, the Town's Reservation System host; the Town has not been paid for several months. Treasurer Neubauer is looking into this. Sowl fears that the combined effect of not having electrical sites & and not being open [due to construction] may reduce revenue from the Park for this summer. He did say that having the online reservation system increased the number of campers by a lot.

C. Harbors & Docks: no budgeted items at this time

D. Airport presented by Michael Dalzell, Airport Manager: Dalzell states that the runway lighting project estimate is high. The original estimate was \$310,000, but it is now down to \$280,000 due to work already done at the site by Cooper Engineering. This is a Board of Aeronautics managed project; the Town's share of it will be \$15,000. The airport budget figures are based on federal funding continuing at the same level according to Dalzell. He added that at the airport, revenue balances expenditures.

III. Adjournment at 6:25 PM

Approved as submitted on November 13, 2012
Patty Hobin, Town Clerk